DALMIA CEMENT—APPROVAL BY GOVERNMENT

168. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will Government be pleased to state whether the Dalmia cement is approved of by Government for the use of Government and public buildings?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* This question has not been considered.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether the Dalmia Cement Company has put in an application before the Government to recognise the cement that is manufactured by them at any time?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* There has been one or two petitions from the company.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know when did the Government receive such petitions?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Some months ago. I want notice.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, whether the Government tested the cement manufactured by the Dalmia Company?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* We have not tested the same.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know the reason why the Government has not done so?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* In fact, we are not testing cement like that. The test certificates of the cement should be ample for us.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Have the certificates been examined? May I know whether they have been called upon to produce the certificates which will show the quality of the cement that is manufactured in that company?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I think they have submitted the test certificate.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Have they been examined closely by the Chief Engineer or by the Government?

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Sir, this is a sort of dialogue between two members and we cannot hear anything—*(Laughter).* We cannot follow what they say.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* I think I can make myself louder.

Mr. President: That is not difficult for you. *(Laughter).*

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Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, whether the certificates produced by them have been examined by the Government or the Chief Engineer?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The point is not only testing that cement. But there are so many other proprietory articles like paints, motor cars, etc. We buy things that we want. We cannot go and buy the articles produced by the different companies in the world.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, how many cement companies have applied for recognition at the hands of the Government?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (*Chief Engineer*): The chief company now in India is the Associated Cements. We are purchasing our cement from that company.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether the Government will purchase cement of the same quality as the cement that is produced by them and probably at a lesser price?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Government have no objection. But they should be satisfied about the quality and the stability of the firm that supplies the cement.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Does the Hon'ble Member for Engineering say that the Dalmia Cement Company is a company which has not got the stability and reputation outside Cochin?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I refuse to answer that question, Sir.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Where is that company?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I do not know.

Mr. President: I may say for the information of the members that the Associated Cement Company and the Dalmia Company have combined now.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* So, does it mean that hereafter the Dalmia Company will possess the necessary stability for doing their business with our Government?

Mr. President: Hereafter, whether Government of Cochin like it or not, the All-India Cement Marketing Board will only market the Dalmia Company cement in these parts, and we have to buy it.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether recognition was not given, because there was no amalgamation before?

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Mr. President: I cannot give information on that question. I was not giving an answer on behalf of the Dalmia Cement Company.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Is the cement that is purchased here manufactured by a company in Madukkara?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I think, it is so.

Mr. President: It is only one of the several companies that come under the Associated Cement Company group.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Is there any cement factory which has applied for this and which has been given recognition except this Madukkara Company?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Any cement which is marketed by the Cement Marketing Board, we are purchasing.

Mr. President: We are purchasing the Nilgiris brand cement not because we like it, but because that is the only brand that the Associated Cement Company markets in Cochin State. Hereafter they will market the Dalmia brand. So, we have no option but to purchase it.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Sir, we have been getting Dalmia cement in Cochin for a long time, and it is said that the cement that is manufactured in the Dalmia factory is as good as the cement that is purchased here from the contractor of the Government. So, why no recognition was granted to the Dalmia Cement Company, that is all what I want to bring to the notice of the Government.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* We were always depending upon a stable and standing cement marketing company. They are the Associated Cement Company.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Does the Government think that the Dalmia Cement Company is not a stable company with a good reputation with regard to cement manufacture?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I have had no occasion to enquire into the details of that company.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Should not the Government make an enquiry into the matter when the application was put in for recognition?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* It is not necessary in a matter of this nature to make any enquiry.

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Mr. Ismail Hajee Issa Sait *(Mattancheri):* May I know, Sir, who is the distributing agent in Cochin State for the Dalmia Cement Company?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I do not know.

Mr. President: I think it is Messrs. Harrison and Cross-field.

ROAD CONNECTING TRICHUR-KADAVALLUR ROAD AND KADAVALLUR-PALANJI ROAD—PROGRESS IN CONSTRUCTION OF

169. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have taken any steps for the construction of the connection road of the Trichur—Kadavallur road to the Kadavallur—Palanji road as promised in the assurance given in reply to cut motion No. 9. (Public Works) on the 27th July 1940 (Budget Session 1115) moved by Mr. K. R. Viswambharan;

(*b*) if so, at what stage the construction work has reached?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) and (*b*) A regular estimate for this work is being prepared.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know, Sir, whether the estimates are prepared after deciding upon the question of expending that amount?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* If there is a probability of the work being taken up we prepare the estimate. That will be justification enough to prepare the estimate.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* So no orders have been passed by the Chief Engineer to construct the road?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I would be very much pleased to construct the road provided there are funds. It costs about Rs. 5,000. We are investigating whether we cannot find savings in some of the road works to take up this work.

OFFICERS DRAWING SPECIAL ALLOWANCE ON ACCOUNT OF WAR

170. Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Will Government be pleased to state whether there are any officers drawing

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